

JOHNA.056DV2

PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/090,039 ) Group Art Unit 1654  
Filed : February 27, 2002 )  
Examiner : Susan Coe )

PROPOSED AMENDMENT FOR DISCUSSION**DO NOT ENTER**

United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

The following proposed claim is for discussion purposes only. The proposed claim is not to be entered. The Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the following claim.

PROPOSED CLAIM:

21. (Amended) A culture medium, which is capable of supporting growth of viable microorganisms comprising:

a nutrient broth in a flowable, liquid state;

a dye which changes color with a change in pH from a first pH range to a second pH range; and

a dual buffer system comprising a first buffer having a first  $pK_a$  and a second buffer having a second  $pK_a$ , wherein said first  $pK_a$  and said second  $pK_a$  are within said first pH range and said second pH range respectively.

REMARKS

A proposed Claim 21 is submitted. The specific changes to Claim 21 is shown above with the insertion underlined. The support for the amendment can be found in the specification.